

## ASSESSOR'S REPORT OCTOBER 2012

Judy Mathiau

**Web Site Update** – The town's web site was recently redesigned and has been publicized. For the department heads and myself, this transition facilitates the process of adding new information and maintaining data on their own web page. Events, reports, forms and news can be made easily on a daily basis.

The **2012 tax maps** are finalized and can be viewed in the assessor's office or on our web site. I always encourage property owners to review their own parcel lines and to submit a survey if they have one. My objective for the winter is to add two new layers of data - 1) building footprints and 2) E-9-1-1 addresses.

I have requested a set of new aerials for the town of Winslow. This opportunity is made possible by the State of **Maine's Ortho Imagery Program**. According to the program, they have contracted with an outside firm to fly the whole state. If a county participates, the municipalities can buy up at a higher quality image at a very low cost. For Winslow, we are contracting for a 1' resolution at only \$5,500. This size resolution will give us two foot horizontal accuracy! Reflights for areas in the program are scheduled every three to five years. The delivery of the new aerials is expected to be delivered in late 2013.

**The MMA Convention** was held in Augusta again this year. The Assessors held a few sessions on both days. One session was on foreclosures and short sales and whether they affect the market value of property. WE learned about the mortgage process and the control by the mortgage company to dictate what, when and to whom when the property is transferred to a new entity. The second session covered surveys and the difference between a boundary survey and a mortgage survey. It was impressive to be involved in the celebration of the Ethel Kelly Memorial Award to our very own Roland Michaud.

I have become more involved with the town's **Safety Committee**. As newly appointed secretary, I have a different perspective on the importance of town wide safety for employees and citizens. The committee meets monthly and is very dedicated to the mission to keep us accident free and in a loss free environment. We received a visit from John Waterbury, a *Loss Control* Consultant from the MMA Risk Management Services. He reviewed our safety manual and visited other departments in order to assist and guide us in the best practices. As a result of a good evaluation and as a participating member of the MMA Risk Management Services, we can receive a credit towards our Workers Compensation contribution.